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BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR

1958



COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

G. A. NORTH, M.B.E., M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst., P.C.,
(Chief Public Health Inspector)



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P U B L I C H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

1958 - 1959

Chairman	Councillor W.P. Hill
Vice-Chairman				
His Worship The Mayor	...	...	...	Councillor H.G. Parker
Alderman A.H. Dudley				Councillor W.H. Micklewright
Councillor Mrs. M.W. Adams			"	E.F. Nock
" Mrs. E.B. Beatty			"	R. Oakley
" C.G. Dance			"	B.G. Rainsford
" J.C. Harvey				D. Samuel
" H. Jones				

P U B L I C H E A L T H O F F I C E R S O F T H E B O R O U G H

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.

Public Analyst:

M. M. LOVE, F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

G. A. NORTH, M.B.E., M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.P.C.

(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.)

Public Health Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.)

R. A. ROGERS, Assistant to Public Health Inspectors.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1958 and 1957.

	1958	1957
Area of District in Acres	4694	4694
Population at Census 1951	37423	37423
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate	39660	39320
No. of inhabited houses, estimated	12945	12645
No. of persons per house	3.06	3.108
Rateable Value	£448,164	£438,569
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£1,761	£1,736
Number of Marriages	341	354
Number of live births	625	657
Number of still births	18	11
Birth Rate (Live)(corrected)	15.7	16.7
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live)	16.4	16.1
Number of illegitimate births	27	31
No. of deaths under one year of age	16	18
of these there were illegitimate	Nil	1
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS	25.6	27.0
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	22.5	23.0
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales	0.43	0.47
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1000 total births)	Nil	Nil
Number of Deaths	487	467
Death Rate (corrected)	12.2	11.9
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7	11.5
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions	51.3	86.0
Number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	4	2
Number of deaths from Cancer	86	65
Number of deaths from Influenza	1	13
Number of deaths from Measles	Nil	Nil
Number of deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Rainfall in inches	28.90	28.05

Year			Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths increase
1949	...	...	702	471	231
1950	...	...	597	461	136
1951	...	...	645	515	130
1952	...	...	661	413	248
1953	...	...	562	588	26 decrease
1954	...	...	603	472	131
1955	...	...	608	458	150
1956	...	...	610	491	119
1957	...	...	657	467	190
1958	...	...	625	487	138

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

Lloyds Bank Chambers,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

Throughout the year the efforts of the Health Department have continued to improve the town's condition, to clean up its atmosphere, to give better housing, to help special groups e.g. old people, mothers and children, and to concentrate on the prevention of poliomyelitis.

A vigorous campaign is in hand to immunise all children under 15 years old against Poliomyelitis. Up to the end of the year about 12,000 children had each received two injections of Poliomyelitis Vaccine.

This report goes into many points of detail and gives tables which indicate satisfactory progress or otherwise.

I am always happy to record my thanks for the willing co-operation given by all the other Municipal Departments and by all other sections of the community.

My thanks are also given to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their always willing support and interest, and also to the Staff of the Health Department without whose loyal and willing help the work could not have been accomplished.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

WHAT DO THE POPULATION FIGURES OF THE BOROUGH SHOW?

The town has more people living in it than ever before, there being 39,660 inhabitants occupying 12,945 houses. There were 138 more births than deaths.

WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT PROBLEM FAMILIES?

Co-ordinating committees discuss problem families at great length and often produce a few useful suggestions, but the fact remains that we are still, in many cases, only giving very inadequate help for such families.

The most important task is to prevent further new problem families from developing.

On the premise that the higher the general standard is in any district the more likely are the children to become responsible citizens, it follows that the provision of an adequate number of good houses in a district will tend to discourage the growth of problem families.

A great difficulty is that housing departments are naturally, unwilling to accept problem families as tenants, knowing that they will have trouble of some sort on their hands, and may even have to obtain evictions, which may solve the department's problem, but leaves the problem family in very dire straits.

If we are to succeed in reducing the number of problem families to the absolute minimum, we must ensure, not only that all children receive good teaching in good schools, but that all children are permanently housed in good houses.

In a few but essential cases the community may have to make special provision both of houses and welfare services as indicated in previous reports.

WHAT IS BEING DONE FOR THE WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE?

The majority of old people are well cared for by their friends and relatives, but there is a need for further help in some cases.

This is provided by several services chiefly organised by the Women's Voluntary Service. These include

Darby and Joan Clubs,
Home Helps,
Meals on Wheels.

There are also home visits made by Health Visitors, factory Welfare Officers, and many voluntary organisations. The coverage is not complete nor yet well integrated, but in 1959 it is hoped to bring together all who have this excellent work in hand.

WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT LUNG CANCER AND SMOKING?

The figures speak for themselves.

During 1958 there were 19,809 deaths from lung cancer, or, over 54 died every day in England and Wales.

In the United Kingdom the sale of tobacco increased by 3 million lbs over the previous year, to an all time record of 241.9 million lbs.

The tobacco industry spends about £2½ million annually in advertising cigarettes, etc.

Surveys in the country show that as many as 25% of senior school boys in some areas have become regular smokers.

Those who realize the significance of these figures wonder how many more thousands of heavy smokers will have to die of lung cancer before any definite action is taken to prevent this scourge!

Who shall take this action? Councillors, doctors, teachers, ministers, parents, and everyone who feels that our boys and girls should be safeguarded against being lung cancer victims, to the tune of over 54 every day in the years to come.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

In addition to sessions organised and held by several general practitioners for their own patients, there are six County Infant Welfare Centres, bringing almost everyone within three-quarters of a mile of a welfare centre. These centres are staffed by the County Divisional Medical Staff, County Health Visitors, and a very willing and able group of voluntary workers.

INFANT WELFARE FOODS.

The distribution of these foods and supplements is administered by the County Council from welfare centres in the borough.

ARE THE WELFARE CENTRES BEING USED?

This table shows how much use is made of the service.

	<u>Clinic</u>			<u>Total Attendance</u>
Birchen Coppice	775
Comberton	1330
St. Oswalds	1029
Foley Park	3056
Coventry Street	2483
Franche	1806
Ante-Natal	923
Total attendances at Clinics				<u>11402</u>
Sewing Class	970

The work of the Health Visitors is summarised in the table below:

Visits to babies:	First	...	...	630
	Subsequent	...	...	2310
Visits to children over 1 year	...	...	...	5837
Useless calls	...	...	...	180
Diphtheria Immunisations - completed		...	...	539

WHAT DO OUR FIGURES SHOW?

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	326	272	598
Illegitimate	11	16	27

STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	9	8	18
Illegitimate	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATE 25.6 PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS.

MATERNAL MORTALITY, NIL

WHAT DO THE INFANT DEATH FIGURES SHOW?

Sixteen infants died before reaching the age of one year, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 25.6 per 1000 live births, and comparing unfavourably with the national figure of 22.5.

The deaths of the 16 infants were assigned to the following causes.

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Number Died</u>
Prematurity	9
Congenital Defects	3
Infections	3
Accident	1

10 died under 4 weeks old, 6 died over 4 weeks old.

In spite of all our welfare and care, 16 babies died, twelve of them due to "Prematurity" and "Congenital Defects." Would more ante-natal care on everyone's part, and this includes the mother herself, have reduced the above deaths? Could the deaths due to infection and the accidental death have been prevented?

The greatest hope for the future is in more and better ante-natal care, by everyone looking after the unborn child.

WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT HOUSING?

To give our children the best chance possible they should live in good, pleasant, houses. Our standard to aim for is that of corporation owned houses. With so much old and obsolescent property existing it will be many years before this standard is attained throughout the town, but up to the end of the year 181 unfit houses have been closed or demolished since 1949.

The Health Department is now planning for further closures and demolitions of unfit property, but until more new houses are available many families will have to continue living under very bad conditions.

The steady provision of hundreds of new houses is the most urgent requirement in this borough, and more than any other single measure will improve the health and happiness of thousands of its inhabitants.

Number of houses built by private enterprise	...	126
Number of traditional type houses built by		
local authority	...	Nil
Number of new type houses	...	116

The Housing Officer provided the following report:-

Total number of Corporation Houses in the		
Borough at 31st December, 1958	...	3116
Total number of applicants on the housing		
waiting list at 1st January, 1958	...	1185
Total number of applicants on housing		
waiting list at 31st December, 1958	...	896
(ascertained by review of list)		

The total number of Corporation Houses completed and occupied during 1958 was 116, in the following types:

Traditional - 3 Bedroom	...	...	...	Nil
- 2 Bedroom	...	...	...	Nil
New-type - 3 Bedroom	...	...	...	86
- 2 Bedroom	...	...	...	13
Aged Persons Bungalows	...	...	...	5
Maisonnettes	...	...	...	12

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between about 17/-d for pre-war Aged Persons Bungalows, to about 43/-d for a 5 bedroomed post war house.

The Welfare Officer continues to perform a most valuable service which will be even more important as unfit houses are replaced by new property.

WATER.

The sources of water as detailed in the Report for 1933 are still in use and constitute the main supply, with an additional supply from the Birmingham Elan Aqueduct, the minimum agreed supply to be 8,000,000 gallons per annum.

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Regular bacteriological examination of the raw water is made weekly. Chlorination is permanently carried out, and its efficacy checked by bacteriological examination of tap samples from various points in the town. The results of examination have always shown the water to be fit for use.

As the local well-water supply is hard (average total hardness about 21) and the subsidiary Elan supply is specially treated at its source the question of plumbo-solvency does not arise.

Table of Analysis of samples during 1958.

			Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
(a) the raw water	Bacteriological	99 samples	99	Nil
	Chemical	94 samples	94	Nil
(b) water going into supply where treat- ment is installed	Bacteriological	90 samples	90	Nil
	Chemical	47 samples	47	Nil
(c) supply from wells	Bacteriological	Nil samples		
	Chemical	Nil samples		

Analysis shows the amount of fluorine present in the water to be about 0.1%. To reduce dental decay in the Borough this amount would have to be increased 10 times.

IS THE AIR WE ALL BREATHE BECOMING CLEANER?

Work to clean up the town's atmosphere has continued throughout the year, and although no drastic improvement has been made, yet the air is gradually becoming cleaner.

This statement is quickly made but the time and effort given by the Health Department Staff to bring about such an improvement is very considerable. Not only are frequent observations and measurements made, but numerous visits are paid to the town's industrial premises, and as a result of the many interviews with industrial management, a high degree of co-operation has been achieved.

The most serious atmosphere polluter of the future will be the thirteen thousand domestic fires in this town, and so far all efforts to establish smoke control zones have been turned down.

Full details of smoke pollution are given on pages 33 and 34.

IS THE HOME HELP SERVICE FLOURISHING?

The Home Help Service in this area, run at a cost of about £10,000 to the Worcestershire County Council, continues to give most necessary help, where sickness, infirmity, maternity, and other medical emergencies make such help indispensable.

The full value of the service can only be realised when account is taken not only of the relief from suffering which it so often brings, but of the great saving in hospital, maternity home and other institutional accommodation brought about by its careful use.

Number of homes visited by Home Helps.

Reason for help.

Maternity	...	...	...	30
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	9
Chronic sick and Elderly	...	...	...	181
General illness	...	...	...	72

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Health education continues to be one of the most important activities of the Health Department, a fact realised by every member of the Health Team.

Many dangerous health practices are carried on in ignorance of the risk to health they cause. We as a department, together with the leaders in our society should do all we can by example and teaching to show what are the healthy ways of living.

Much of this work is carried out in our day to day contacts, but there have been opportunities for group discussion with clubs, parent associations and other bodies, where specific problems have been usefully debated.

These group discussions are always welcomed by the Health Department Staff which has received valuable help from material supplied by the "Central Council for Health Education."

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE AND SEX

Cause of Death		Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Nil	3
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	Nil
3	Syphilitic Diseases	Nil	Nil
4	Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5	Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6	Meningococcal Infections	Nil	Nil
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
8	Measles	Nil	Nil
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm. Stomach	11	4
11	" " Lung, Bronchus	14	3
12	" " Breast	Nil	7
13	" " Uterus	Nil	6
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	20	21
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	3	2
16	Diabetes	Nil	2
17	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	52	37
18	Coronary Disease Angina	32	24
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	3
20	Other Heart Diseases	32	47
21	Other Circulatory Diseases	7	8
22	Influenza	1	Nil
23	Pneumonia	9	16
24	Bronchitis	22	8
25	Other diseases of Respiratory System	2	Nil
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	Nil
27	Gastritis and Diarrhoea	Nil	Nil
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	6	7
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	Nil
30	Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	Nil	Nil
31	Congenital Malformations	2	3
32	Other Defined and ill-defined Diseases	14	20
33	Motor vehicle accidents	7	2
34	All other accidents	6	4
35	Suicide	1	1
36	Homicide and Operations of War	1	Nil
Total:		258	229

The ages at which deaths have taken place during 1958 are as follows:-

Under 1 year	...	...	16
Between 1 and 2 years		...	1
Between 2 and 5 years		...	1
Between 5 and 15 years		...	2
Between 15 and 25 years		...	5
Between 25 and 45 years		...	17
Between 45 and 65 years		...	79
65 years and upwards		...	366

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough can use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

The Public Health Officers of the Authority are listed on page 5 of this report for convenient reference.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital. Specimens for examination have been referred through an Honorary Physician in the Out-Patients Department.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance Service controlled by the Worcestershire County Council has its Divisional Headquarters in Castle Road, Kidderminster, where seven vehicles and crews operate in the Kidderminster area.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Kidderminster Nursing Association continued to administer the District Nurses as well as District Midwives in the Borough. There are a Matron, three midwives, three pupils, and three District Nurses working in the Borough.

HOSPITALS.

Since 1948, the Hospitals and Maternity Home and other Institutions have been administered by the Regional Hospital Board. Greenhill Hostel, a voluntary institution for the care of unmarried mothers and under Diocesan administration, closed down.

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Deaths occurring in institutions numbered 250 of the total 487 deaths in the Borough.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinic	Situation and Time of Session	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Mondays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. St. Oswalds Parish Hall, Broadwaters - Mondays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Birchen Coppice Church Hall - 1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Franche Church Hall, Franche - Tuesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Coventry Street Clinic - Thursdays 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Comberton Church Hall - Tuesdays 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.	County Council
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10.30 a.m. and 3.0 p.m. Thursday, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases	Kidderminster General Hospital - Monday, 2.0 p.m. Thursday 5.0 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Ante-Natal	Monday Session at Coventry Street Clinic - 2.0 to 4.0 p.m. Friday Session at Stanmore Nurses' Home 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.	County Council
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11.0 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board
Family Planning Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic - Wednesday 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.	Family Planning Association

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1958.

There were 25 deaths caused by pneumonia, and 4 deaths caused by tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1958.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	9	4	Nil
Pneumonia ...	3	Nil	25
Whooping Cough ...	10	Nil	Nil
Measles ...	20	Nil	Nil
Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	Nil
Dysentery ...	1	Nil	Nil

DIPHTHERIA.

No cases occurred. 539 immunisations were completed.

There are still some parents who are prejudiced, or ignorant or too apathetic to have their children protected against this dangerous disease.

There have been 5 cases of Diphtheria with no deaths during the last 10 years.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

For the first time vaccination against poliomyelitis was begun in March, 1958, and by the end of the year approximately 12,000 children under 15 years old had received two injections of Salk or British Vaccine. There have been no reactions of note reported.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 17 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 non Pulmonary cases notified in 1958.

The Miniature Mass Radiography Unit paid bi-monthly visits to the Borough to examine ante-natal patients and also patients specially sent by private doctors. 1,510 people were examined in whom 4 cases of active Tuberculosis were discovered.

It is significant that although 19 new cases were notified, there were only 3 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. "Prevention" is not keeping pace with "Cure" in this disease.

B. C. G. Inoculation was offered to the 13 year old children and was accepted by 89%.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Death Rate (all forms) per 1,000 living
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	
1949	22	14	6	1	.39
1950	34	16	1	2	.47
1951	29	7	1	2	.24
1952	23	7	1	1	.21
1953	24	6	2	1	.18
1954	19	4	5	1	.13
1955	34	8	Nil	Nil	.20
1956	46	2	2	Nil	.05
1957	29	2	2	Nil	.05
1958	17	3	2	1	.10

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

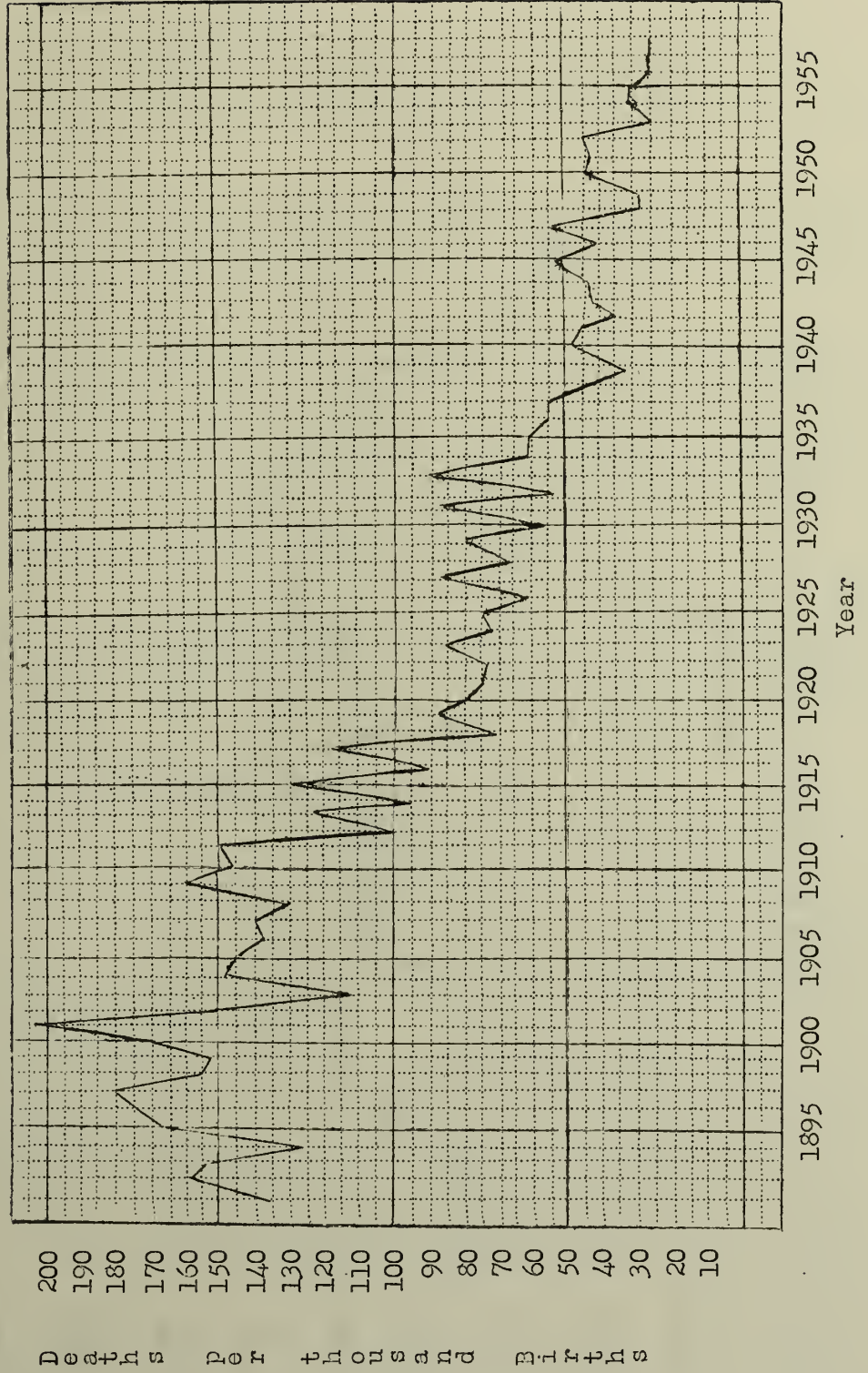
Disinfestation and disinfection was undertaken by the Health Department, on account of the following:-

Cancer	...	...	...	2
Bugs	...	...	...	13
Fleas	...	...	...	1
Ants	...	...	...	2
Cockroaches	...	...	...	1
Flies	...	...	...	5
Wasps	...	...	...	1
Mosquitoes	...	...	...	2

KIDDERMINSTER BOROUGH

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

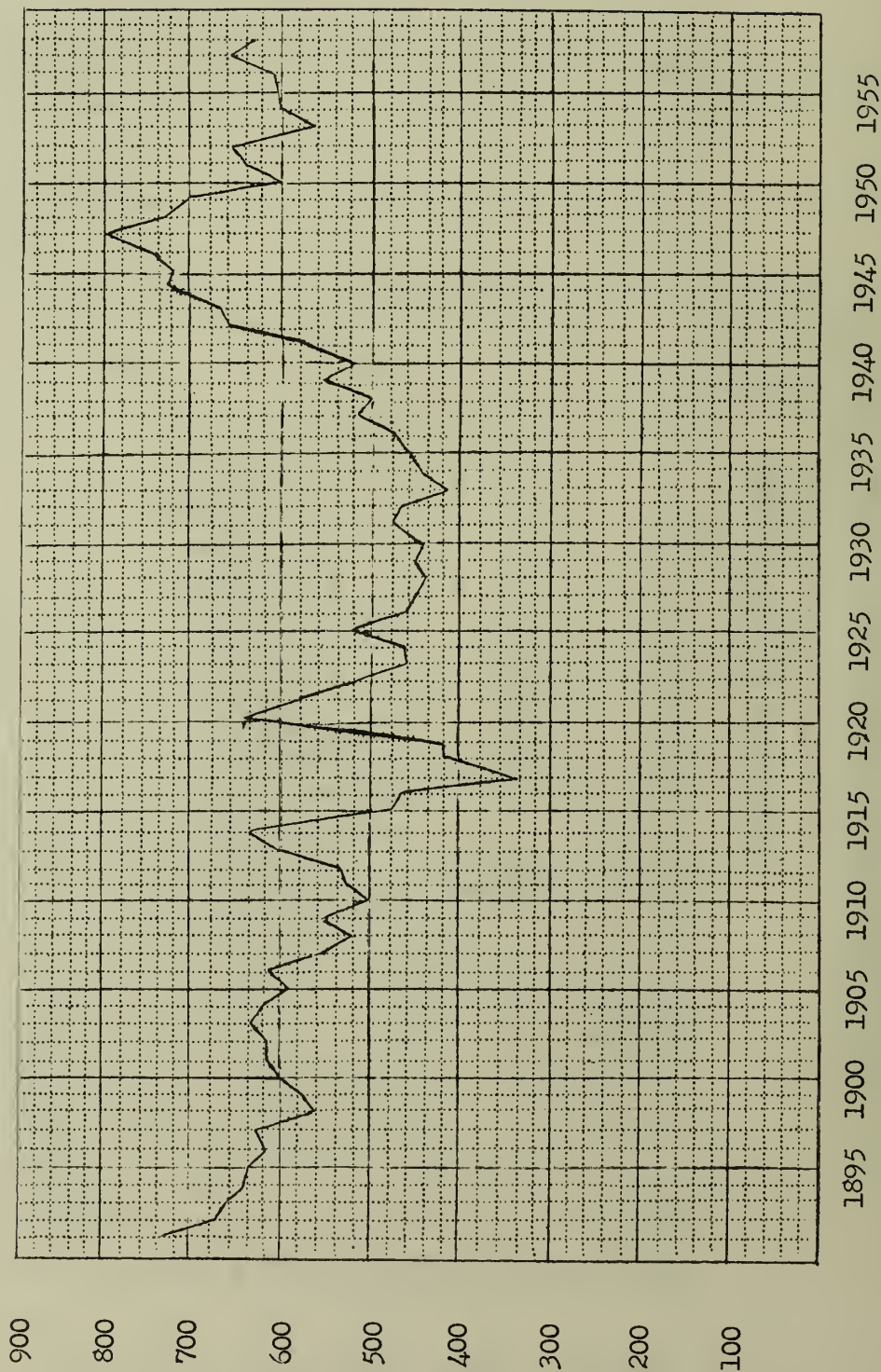
DEATHS PER THOUSAND BIRTHS



Deaths per thousand Births

KIDDERMINSTER BOROUGH

LIVE BIRTHS



REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1958.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the work accomplished by my department for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES - New legislation governing slaughterhouse buildings, equipment and hygiene received the Royal Assent during the Autumn of 1958, and parts of it became effective from the 1st January, 1959.

It is clear that certain existing premises owing to the structural situation, cannot be reconditioned to the new standard. The slaughterhouses which remain and conform to the new requirements, must deal with more animals. The concentration of premises for the slaughter of animals is very desirable, and enables the qualified Meat Officers to inspect all animals at the time of slaughter. Slaughterhouse buildings are not usually the type of food premises thrown open to admiring visitors, but they are the most important from the food hygiene standpoint.

I am pleased to record my appreciation to the local butchers for the excellent quality of the animals which pass through the slaughterhouses, and to the high class of meat which is displayed in the shops. In this respect, the farmers in the area deserve the highest praise for producing the animals suitable for the butchers and the general public for human consumption.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2494	153	341	10906	5417
Number inspected	2494	153	341	9528	5417
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS: Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	4	14	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	387	8	6	186	198
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	15.5	5.2	2.9	2.09	3.7
TUBERCULOSIS: Whole carcasses condemned	4	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	73	6	-	-	130
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.08	3.9	-	-	2.4

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED DURING 1958.

Disease				Tons	Cwts	Lbs
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	13	109
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	...	...	...	1	7	11
Pyogenic Abscesses	...	...	...		13	5
Parasitic Cysts	...	...	...		5	111
Pleurisy	...	...	...		4	52
Moribund, ill-bled	...	...	...		4	17
Pneumonia	...	...	...		2	46
Physiological Poorness	...	...	...		2	36
Necrosis	...	...	...		2	29
Enteritis, Sepsis	...	...	...		2	16
Injury	...	...	...		1	88
Swine Fever	...	...	...		1	80
Strongylosis	...	...	...		1	63
Cysticercus Bovis	...	...	...		1	40
Angiomatosis	...	...	...			76
Inflammation	...	...	...			70
Pyæmia, Septicaemia	...	...	...			70
Melanosis	...	...	...			62
Died in transit	...	...	...			56
Inefficiently bled	...	...	...			50
Jaundice	...	...	...			45
Stale and decomposing	...	...	...			45
Actinomycosis	...	...	...			41
Mastitis	...	...	...			36
Peritonitis	...	...	...			35
Emaciation, Dropsy	...	...	...			33
Hepatitis	...	...	...			32
Pericarditis	...	...	...			12
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...			6
Total weight condemned ...				6	10	28

SUMMARY OF MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (1949-1958)

Number of Animals Slaughtered					Amount of Meat Condemned					
Year	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Weight of Meat and Offal rejected			Weight Amount Affected with Tuberculosis		
					T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
1949	2817	9534	227	1703	55	8	2	23	19	2
1950	3446	8953	92	1398	61	14	0	27	2	1
1951	4001	9750	607	722	45	18	1	19	8	3
1952	3379	11446	1434	1030	38	3	1	13	10	2
1953	3520	10928	3658	1266	35	17	2	11	16	1
1954	2442	11780	5549	582	18	8	1	7	1	1
1955	1730	7370	5616	284	4	15	3	1	12	0
1956	2551	10809	5489	496	7	9	0	3	3	1
1957	2627	9649	4941	413	6	3	1	2	15	3
1958	2647	10906	5417	341	6	10	1	2	14	0

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED.

784 Tinned Goods	24 lbs Jellied Veal
150 lbs Corned Beef	108 lbs Black Puddings
418 lbs Cod Fillets	75 Chickens
59 lbs Cheeses	42 lbs Crab
152 lbs Cods' Roe	2 ton 2 cwt Potatoes
24 lbs Ox Tongue	11 lbs Frozen Whole Egg
12 lbs Pudding Mixture	196 lbs Herrings
1 lb Sausage	20 lbs Plaice
126 lbs Mergims	83 lbs Haddock
140 lbs Cooked Ham	24 lbs Bacon
16 lbs Luncheon Meat	48 Escallops
8 lbs Brisket Beef	

	T.	C.	Q.
<u>SUMMARY:</u> Grand Total Weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned	9	15	1
Grand Total Weight (Meat) Condemned	6	10	1
Grand Total Weight (Tuberculosis) Condemned	2	14	0

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.

The operation of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations has resulted in the taking of routine samples of Ice-Cream manufactured and retailed in the Borough. The tables below give the results, which are most satisfactory.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

Manufacturers (Heat Treatment)	...	...	...	Nil
Manufacturers (Complete cold mix only)	...	...	...	2
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold	...	...	...	162
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold	...	...	...	3
(Does not include cafes)				

1. Ice-Cream - Chemical Analysis.

No. submitted	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
7	6	1

2. Ice-Cream - Bacteriological Examination.

No. submitted	Grades			
	1	2	3	4
7	6	1	Nil	Nil
Percentages	86%	14%	Nil	Nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS 1925 to 1953.

CLEAN FOOD BYELAWS.

Total number of samples (chemical analysis only) taken during the year 1958 66

Milk	...	...	33	Whole Orange Juice	...	4
Channel Island Milk			4	Tomato Chutney	...	1
Ice-Cream	...	...	7	Olive Oil	...	1
Pork Sausage	...	...	12	Canned Ham	...	1
Beef Sausage	...	...	3			

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES NOT GENUINE.

Sample No.	Sample of	Deficiency or Condition	Result, Action, etc.
694	Pork Sausage	Meat content slightly below suggested standard.	As there is now no legal standard for meat in sausage, negotiations continued on an informal basis only.
700	Pork Sausage	"	
716	Pork Sausage	"	
717	Canned Ham	Strong smell, unpleasant off flavour.	
724	Olive Oil	Oxidative rancidity.	Private sample, not a (purchase. as above
750	Pork Sausage	Meat content slightly below suggested standard.	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS - OTHER FOODS.

Sample No.	Nature of Food	Type of Organisms
531	Beef Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
538	Tomato Chutney	The sample is sterile.
539	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
540	Beef Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
541	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
542	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
551	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
552	Beef Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
553	Chitterlings	4,100,000 organisms per grm. Faecal coli not isolated.
554	Chitterlings	194,700 organisms per grm. Faecal coli not isolated.
555	Chitterlings	25,000 organisms per grm. Faecal coli not isolated.
559	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
586	Beef Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
587	Beef Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
593	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
595	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.
596	Pork Sausage	No pathogens isolated.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION)(PASTEURISED AND STERILISED) REGULATIONS,
1949 - 1953.

Number of Licences issued:

Tuberculin Tested Milk	Bottling	...	...	Nil
	Dealer's Licences	...	...	4
	Supplimentary Licences	...	...	8
Pasteurised Milk	Pasteurising Plants	...	...	1
	Dealer's Licences	...	...	12
	Supplimentary Licences	...	...	11
Sterilised Milk	Processing Plants	...	...	1
	Dealer's Licences	...	...	67
	Supplimentary Licences	...	...	10

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Distributors registered (excluding shops selling sterilised milk only)	...	...	...	...	...	19
Number of Dairy premises registered	...	...	...	...	...	9

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Sample	No. Taken	Methylene Blue Test		Turbidity Test		No. did not satisfy Phos- phatase test
		No. Satisfied test	No. did not satisfy test	No. Satisfied test	No. did not satisfy test	
Designated Milk						
Pasteurised	20	20	-	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tested						
Pasteurised	15	15	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	9	-	-	9	-	-
Total	44	35	-	9	-	-

FOOD INSPECTION AND FOOD PREMISES (OTHER THAN MEAT INSPECTION.)

The importance of Food Inspection and Food Hygiene is a factor which cannot be underestimated and the Department being ever mindful of this gives as much of its time as possible to this vital work. From the list of inspections given on page 29, it can be seen that 192 visits have been paid to food preparing places and shops to examine food, check on equipment, utensils etc., enquire into methods employed in food handling, and on the all important provision of proper handwashing facilities. Until we reach that "peak of perfection" to which we aim in the field of food hygiene and food handling, much still remains to be done. In this connection, firstly the sound education of food operatives and of almost equal importance the installation of modern equipment for manufacture and storage and provision of easily cleaned and non-absorbent working surfaces will, in the end serve great purpose. The provision of refrigerated display cabinets in shops still continues to increase - a very encouraging fact.

It is however, still to be regretted that complaints of mould and contraries in food continue to reach your department, as a result of this one prosecution was taken - sale of bread containing mould growths for which a fine of £5 and costs was imposed.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination is still used to assess the cleanliness of their preparation, etc. A table showing the samples taken can be found on page 24.

The proprietors and managers of all shops in the borough should frequently keep a regular check on all food stocks, in particular meat products, pies, cooked meats, sausages, and other perishable foodstuffs.

The numerous articles of food products which are now on sale in a pre-packed condition, make it of vital necessity to keep a constant check on all food packages which should have a quick sale to be suitable in all respects for human consumption.

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Section 16.

The table below gives a summary of some of the food premises with which the department is concerned.

Sausage manufacturers	...	...	14
Cooked meats, pies, etc., manufacturers	...	...	18
Ice-Cream manufacturers	...	...	2
Fish Friers	...	...	17
Ice-Cream retailers	...	...	162
Slaughterhouses	...	...	8
Butchers' shops	...	...	26
Grocers' shops (excluding hucksters shops)	..	...	36
Fishmongers (excluding fried fish shops)	...	...	7
Cafes, restaurants, etc.	...	...	51
Licensed houses	...	...	87
Sugar confectionery manufacture	...	...	2
Bakehouses	...	...	11
Bottlers of beer	...	...	2
Wholesale grocers and provision warehouses	..	...	2

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING, ETC.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the local authority mainly by combating the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas, cockroaches, etc.

It is usual to spray infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide containing D.D.T. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wall-papers are removed, so as to facilitate the work.

Number of houses disinfested by local authority	...	25
---	-----	----

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	205
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...				750
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...				Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...				17
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under sub-head above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	132

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by local authority or their officers	88
---	-----	-----	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | | |
| | (a) by owners | ... | Nil |
| | (b) by local authority in default of owners | | Nil |

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | 35 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | | |
| | (a) by owners | ... | 35 |
| | (b) by local authority in default of owners | | Nil |

(c) Proceedings under sections 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | 12 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | 3 |

(d) Proceedings under section 18 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | | Nil |
| (2) | Closing Orders under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 | ... | 4 |
| (3) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit | ... | Nil |

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary notices served	...	...	62
Intimation letters sent	...	...	53
Statutory notices served	...	...	19

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS AND OTHER VISITS.

House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Act)	...	...	750
House Inspections (Rent Act)	...	...	144
Private Slaughterhouses	...	...	1231
Unsound Food, Shops, Warehouses, Stores, etc.	...	...	80
Food preparing places, Cafes, Bakehouses etc.	...	...	91
Ice-Cream retailing premises	...	...	19
Mobile Food Units	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	6
Markets	...	...	67
Offensive Trades	...	...	4
Infectious Diseases	...	...	5
Rodent Control	...	...	97
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	16
Keeping poultry, animals	...	...	6
Drainage, (repairs to, testing etc.)	...	...	62
Movable dwellings	...	...	15
Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	38
Refuse Disposal Sites	...	...	210
Theatres, Cinemas, etc.	...	...	11
Factories (sanitary accommodation etc.)	...	...	45
Pet Animals	...	...	2
Cesspools, Septic Tanks	...	...	3
Flooded cellars	...	...	4
Welfare	...	...	5
Outside interviews - property owners, builders etc.	...	...	57
Improvement Grant inspections	...	...	34
Advance on Mortgages	...	...	25
Miscellaneous complaints	...	...	109
Water supply	...	...	9
Water (sampling canal and water courses)	...	...	7
Refuse (unauthorised tipping etc.)	...	...	9
Dangerous structures	...	...	2

SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Two summonses were issued during the year as under:-

Situation of Premises	Nature of Complaint	Sections Contravened	Result
No. 258, Hoo Road.	Numerous sanitary defects.	39 & 92	Fined £2 and order made.
No. 7, Leswell Grove.	Insanitary House.	92	Order made.

THE RENT ACT, 1957.

Below is a synopsis of the work during the year 1958, under the above Act, which came into force on 6th July, 1957.

Applications for certificates of disrepair received	...	...	...	38
Applications subsequently withdrawn (in writing)	...	...	...	3
Decision not to issue certificate	...	...	...	1
Form J served on owners of intention to issue certificate of disrepair	...	...	...	38
Undertakings (subsequent to the issue of Form J) received from owners to remedy defects	...	...	...	31
Certificates of disrepair issued	...	...	...	8
Work done on receipt of Form J	...	...	...	2

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses left in the Borough which, during the year, underwent extensive repairs and alterations, raising proportionately the standard of accommodation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The following list of establishments gives those trades which are scheduled in this area as offensive trades.

Gut Scraper	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boiler	...	...	...	1

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	26	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	175	38	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority - (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	201	45	3	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	6	-	6	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	6	-	6	-

RODENT CONTROL.PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Numerous complaints of minor infestations were notified and received attention during the year, and routine surveys of business premises and residential areas were also carried out.

In addition, the main sewer manholes were treated twice during the year in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

TREATMENTS.

Corporation Properties	...	...	29
Corporation Sewer Manholes	...	...	130
Private Houses	...	...	271
Individual business premises	...	...	936
Block control schemes carried out	...	...	14

(April 1958 to March 1959.)

RAINFALL.

Month	Inches		Rainfall	
	1957	1958	for past ten years Year	Inches
January	1.30	0.38	1949	19.46
February	3.42	4.43	1950	22.66
March	1.81	1.15	1951	32.57
April	.08	0.39	1952	22.58
May	1.78	1.84	1953	22.29
June	1.49	3.53	1954	27.27
July	4.87	3.05	1955	20.90
August	3.96	2.37	1956	22.40
September	4.14	4.46	1957	28.05
October	1.23	2.45	1958	28.90
November	2.14	1.65		
December	1.83	3.20		
Total:	28.05	28.90	Average: 24.70	

MORTUARY.

During the year 41 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Classification of Industrial Boiler installations other than central heating units in the Borough.

Type of Grate				Number of Boilers
Hand fired	...	...	...	25
Chain	...	...	...	20
Coking Stokers	...	...	...	13
Sprinkler Type	...	...	...	2
Oil fired	...	...	...	11
Underfed	...	...	...	9
Ram Type	...	...	...	2
Town Gas	...	...	...	1
Total:	...	...	...	83

Number of installations fitted with effective smoke reducing or ancillary equipment ... 63
 Number of visits made to boiler installations 58
 Number of hours of observation made ... 14

DEPOSITED MATTER.

Stations: 1. Central Theatre Roof, Oxford Street, Kidderminster.
 2. Sewage Disposal Works, Stourport Road, Kidderminster.
 Experi- A. 238, Chester Road North, Kidderminster.
 mental B. 29, Franche Road, Kidderminster.
 Stations: C. 56, Baldwin Road, Kidderminster. (discontinued from October.)

Month	Solid Matter (Tons per sq. mile)					SO ₄ (Tons per sq. mile)		SO ₃ (ng/100 sq. cm/day)	
	Stn.1.	Stn.2.	Stn.A.	Stn.B.	Stn.C.	Stn.1.	Stn.2.	Stn.1.	Stn.2.
January									
February	19.26	8.97	17.55	15.28	12.03	3.83	1.97	3.03	1.12
March	7.39	5.17	10.08	-	4.56	1.41	1.37	0.06	0.02
April	5.17	4.77	8.13	29.68	16.90	0.71	0.57	0.16	0.05
May	10.44	8.07	14.96	35.10	17.56	2.15	2.13	-	-
June	3.19	4.43	16.57	16.24	7.48	0.30	1.97	0.87	-
July	2.75	-	21.13	25.03	50.06	1.11	-	-	-
August	2.82	3.57	18.52	20.79	18.84	1.38	1.17	-	0.50
September	5.44	7.31	47.78	62.73	62.08	2.65	1.53	1.32	0.92
October	-	3.96	9.10	16.24	-	-	0.97	1.92	0.68
November	5.48	2.45	9.75	12.35	-	0.71	0.84	2.58	1.70
December	11.67	8.90	7.15	60.10	-	2.01	2.02	-	0.306

ACTION TAKEN TO ABATE SMOKE.

The statistics on page 33 show the gradual increase in the number of oil fired installations in the Borough and although not in the record here, there is also a known increase in the number of oil fired applications to central heating installations, both commercial and domestic. There is no doubt that oil firing is an obvious improvement on what were previously coal fired units, but this department is very conscious of the invisible and more dangerous contamination which could be emitted from oil burners and in view of this it is intended to purchase an apparatus for the testing of flue gases from oil burners, e.g., the Bacharach system coupled with Fyrite CO₂ assessment.

Although the great majority of oil installations are automatically controlled there are examples of equipment being mishandled and badly balanced, throwing out an effluvia far more noxious and dangerous to health than from many solid fuel furnaces.

Because of the readily available suitable fuel, the chain grate seems to have gained favour in this Borough, however it is found that it could be a source of grit emission.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

★	The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the year 1958 was	...	...	£31,184
★	The income was	...	...	£4,742
	The net cost being	...	...	£26,442

★ Financial year ended 31st March, 1959. These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Total number of loads of refuse removed	...	...	5780
Total number of loads of salvage removed	...	...	1994
Closet pans emptied	...	...	1552
Loads of night soil removed	...	...	53

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

Tipped at Broadwaters	...	...	...	Nil
Tipped at Puxton	...	...	...	Nil
Tipped at Hoobrook	...	...	...	Nil
Tipped at Worcester Road	...	...	...	5780
Total:	...	...	...	5780

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1958.

Month			Weight of Salvage			Income from Sale		
			Tons	Cwts	Qrs	£	s.	d.
January	...	...	52	19	2	376	17	9
February	...	...	49	5	0	378	2	10
March	...	...	47	18	1	317	10	3
April	...	...	46	19	0	315	7	8
May	...	...	58	13	0	369	5	2
June	...	...	52	9	1	387	12	7
July	...	...	47	11	1	335	17	7
August	...	...	40	6	0	288	17	6
September	...	...	58	8	1	378	5	9
October	...	...	63	7	3	390	6	0
November	...	...	52	4	0	338	19	2
December	...	...	52	2	1	344	6	11
TOTAL:	...	...	622	3	2	£4221	9	2

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below.

Materials			Tons	Cwts	Qrs	£	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	...	...	472	14	0	3560	4	1
Heavy Cast Iron	...	...	1	9	1	11	14	0
Baled Destructor Scrap	...	...	80	2	2	448	15	5
Cullet (Broken Glass)	...	...	64	9	3	136	9	0
Bottles and Jars	...	...	-	-	-	6	17	0
Light Scrap Iron	...	...	1	13	2	12	6	7
Aluminium	...	...		6	2	22	8	9
Textiles	...	...	1	8	0	22	14	4
TOTAL:	...	...	622	3	2	£4221	9	2

Total tonnage - 1940 to 1958 :- 22,598 tons 11 cwt 0 qrs.
 Total value - :- £125,465 3s 7d.

Chief items of recovery:-

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	9589	13	3	70,137	3	4
Kitchen Waste	5216	6	2	27,242	17	1
Baled Tins	3296	2	1	7,678	2	5

SALVAGE - 1940 to 1957.

Year	Tonnage (All materials)			Value			Waste Paper			Baled Tins			Kitchen Waste					
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
1940	959	11	0	2943	11	0	369	13	2	1460	10	5	242	18	1	349	9	0
1941	1550	17	3	4735	9	9	484	2	2	2159	2	10	384	0	1	640	7	7
1942	2023	18	2	8551	5	11	751	18	1	4827	5	6	484	11	3	898	6	4
1943	1689	6	1	6803	6	4	479	19	2	3276	5	6	435	9	0	685	15	3
1944	1589	4	2	6535	14	2	568	4	0	3910	5	11	339	5	1	579	2	4
1945	1528	13	2	5892	12	9	418	10	1	2918	12	5	260	8	0	449	12	4
1946	1456	6	1	7787	13	0	416	0	0	2780	1	9	176	8	1	307	8	9
1947	1274	3	1	7192	17	10	372	9	3	2423	13	4	122	9	3	230	5	10
1948	1273	17	1	7143	1	9	467	6	1	3054	16	11	123	14	0	236	10	7
1949	1191	17	2	7099	7	2	492	6	2	3070	8	9	102	18	0	207	7	5
1950	1069	13	3	6367	9	7	530	7	3	3144	7	8	58	2	1	126	14	0
1951	1145	17	1	12467	1	11	544	3	2	8281	5	1	57	8	1	199	15	10
1952	1181	14	0	10021	9	11	548	12	3	5851	0	3	108	2	0	475	4	1
1953	1041	12	3	7024	6	11	601	12	0	4043	10	7	62	6	2	274	4	6
1954	930	7	3	6277	9	3	523	15	3	3649	8	0	48	19	1	216	13	0
1955	727	5	1	5339	5	3	542	3	1	4259	10	4	66	17	2	347	4	5
1956	662	8	2	4600	0	8	508	4	0	3845	17	1	65	12	0	430	12	6
1957	679	12	2	4461	11	3	497	10	1	3620	16	11	76	9	2	574	13	3
1958	622	3	2	4221	9	2	472	14	0	3560	4	1	80	2	2	448	15	5
	22598	11	0	125455	3	7	9589	13	3	70137	3	4	3296	2	1	7678	2	5
													5216	6	2	27242	17	1

I am pleased to record again my thanks to the whole of the Staff for their loyal and continuous co-operation in dealing with increasing duties, and who make every effort to administer the multifarious responsibilities of the Department.

Finally, I desire to express my appreciation for the constant support at all times from the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Members of the Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

GEO. A. NORTH.
Chief Public Health Inspector.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, AND
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

